

TELEPHONE TALK

Vol. 46, No. 5

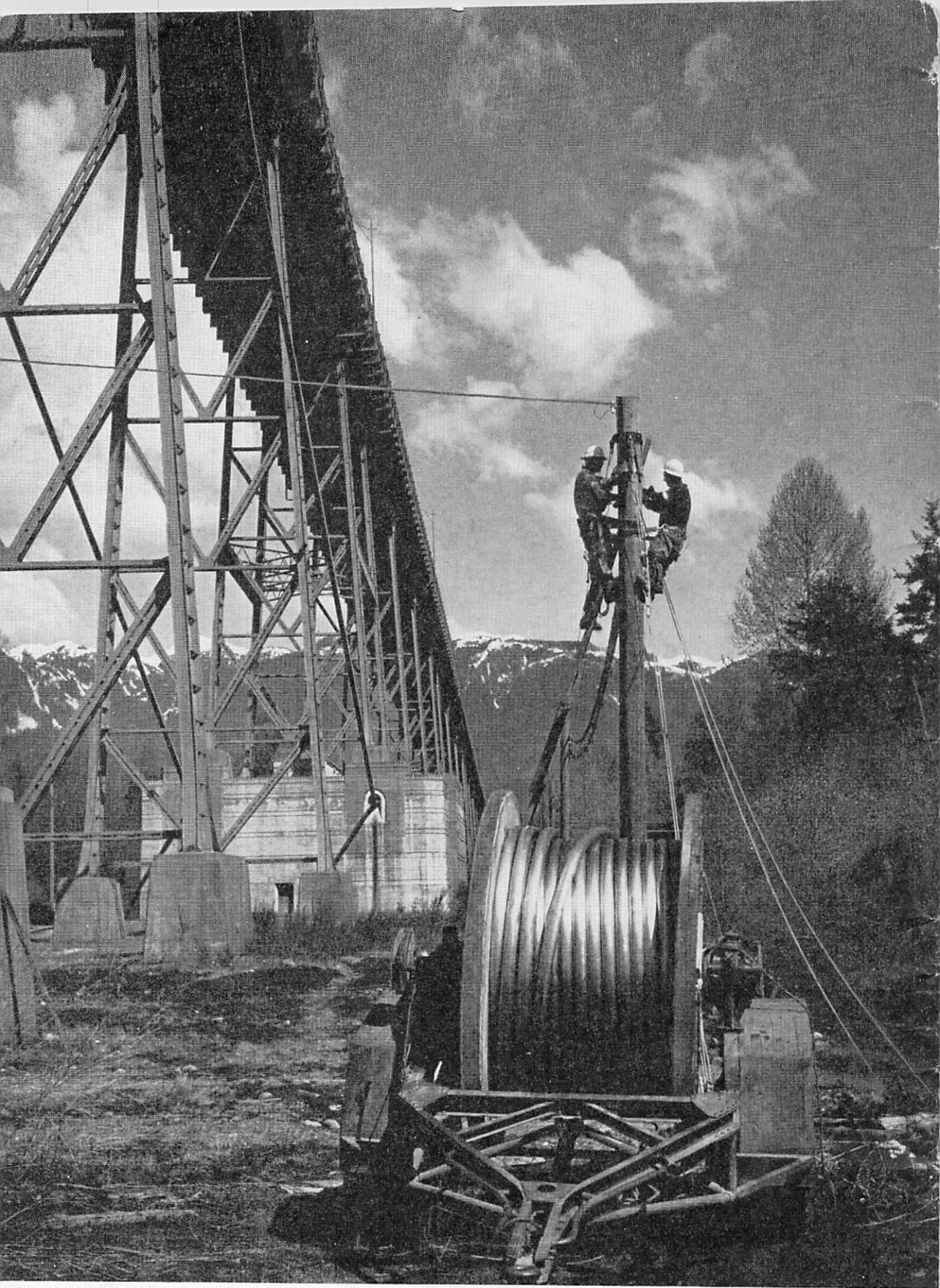
BRITISH COLUMBIA TELEPHONE COMPANY

September-October, 1956



—Photo by B.C. Government Travel Bureau

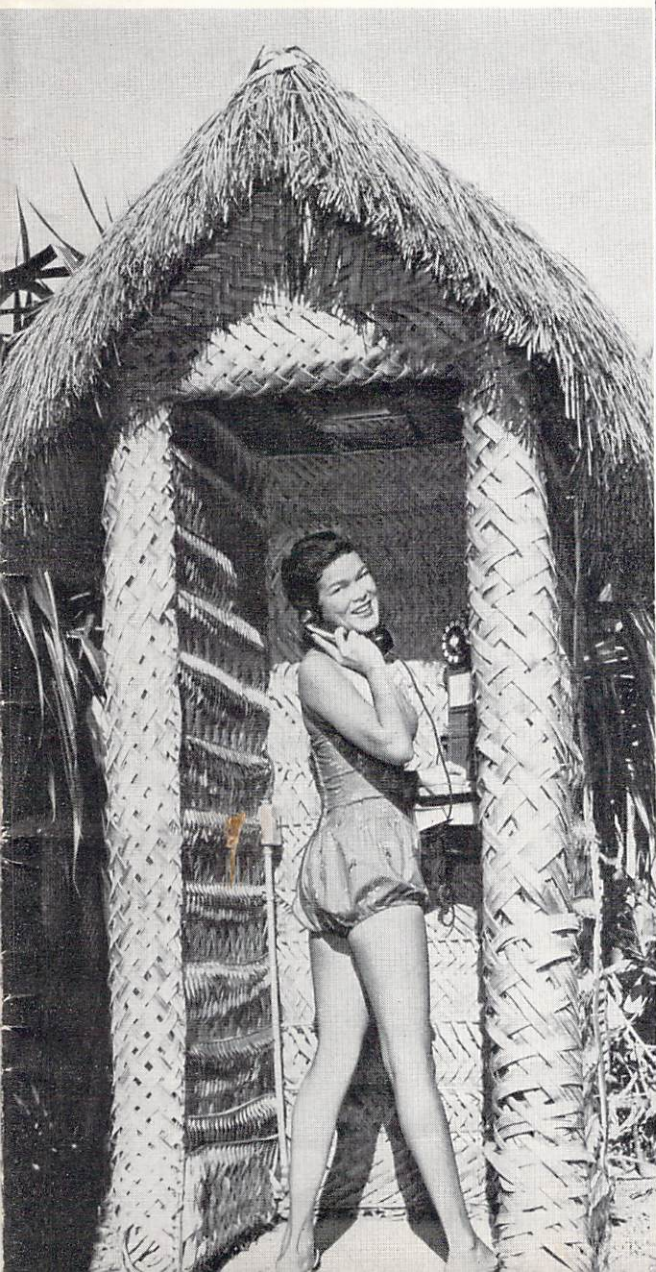
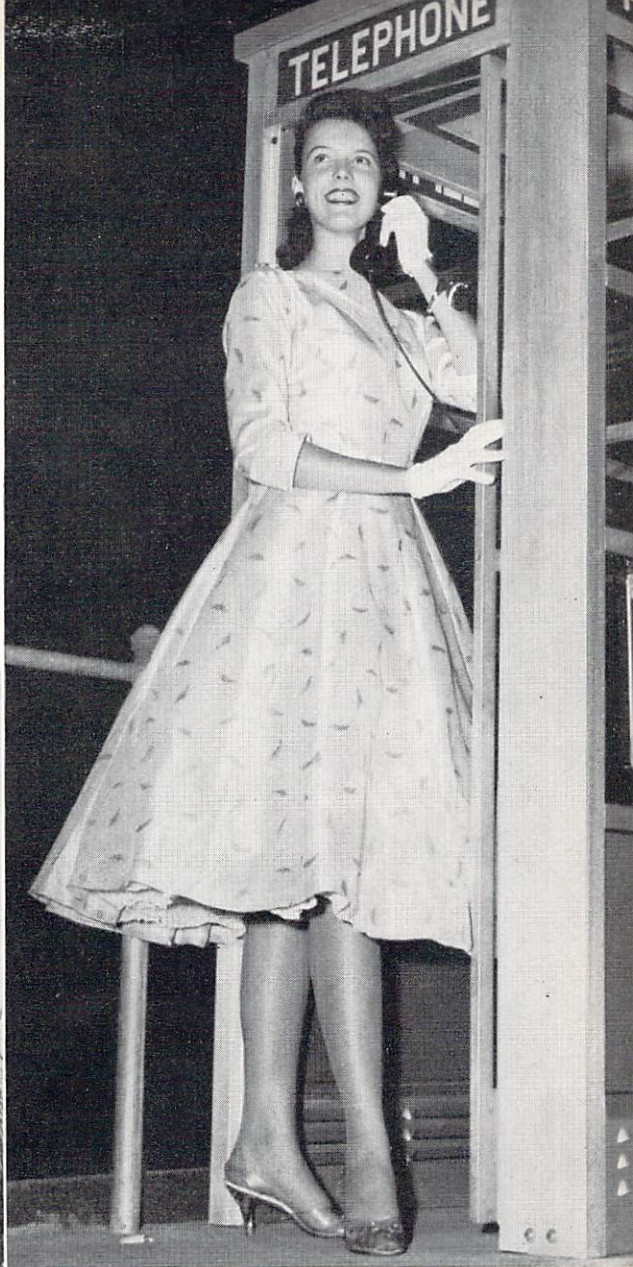
B.C.'s Peace River area—the Pine River at East Pine Bridge, 45 miles west of Dawson Creek on the John Hart Highway.



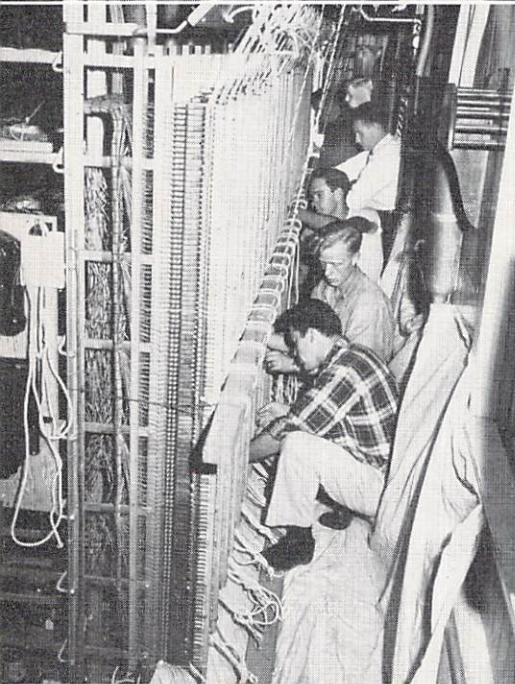
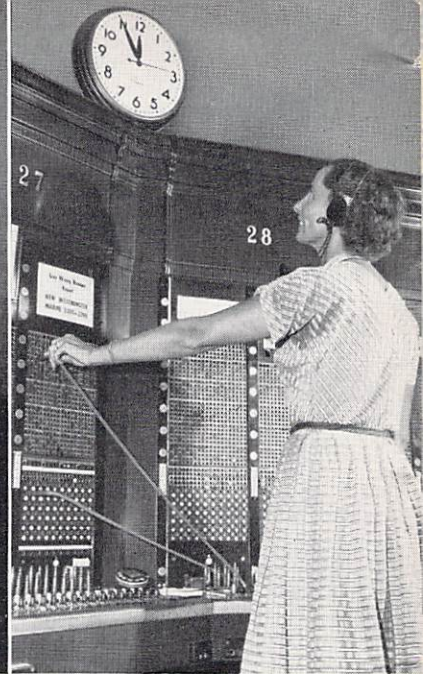
—Photo by Jack Lindsay

Against a backdrop of sky and North Shore mountains, Jack Greaves and Bob Marsh work on the Vancouver-West Vancouver trunk cable at the north end of Lions Gate Bridge.

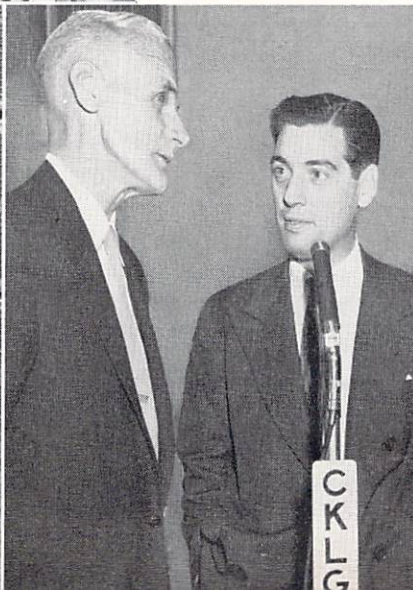
The man who invented the modern outdoor telephone booth didn't have Fran Chadwick of Los Angeles in mind when he dreamed up this public convenience. Chosen "Queen of Height" at a convention of the American Affiliation of Tall Clubs in Vancouver last July, Fran uses outdoor paystations just like her shorter contemporaries, but finds them a tight squeeze altitudewise. For the record, Fran is six feet, two inches without her shoes, and her other measurements are the kind that appeal to beauty contest judges. Photo courtesy The Vancouver Sun.



Climate has a strong influence on construction of any kind. The North Temperate Zone requires sturdy buildings—even outdoor paystations. But in the Tropics, they apparently build them to blend in with the vegetation. What appears here to be a stage prop from Vancouver's Theatre Under the Stars production of "South Pacific" is really a genuine thatched outdoor paystation at Waikiki Beach, which proves that this type of public telephone facility is available almost anywhere. The beach maiden in the picture is not named. Photo courtesy of United Air Lines.



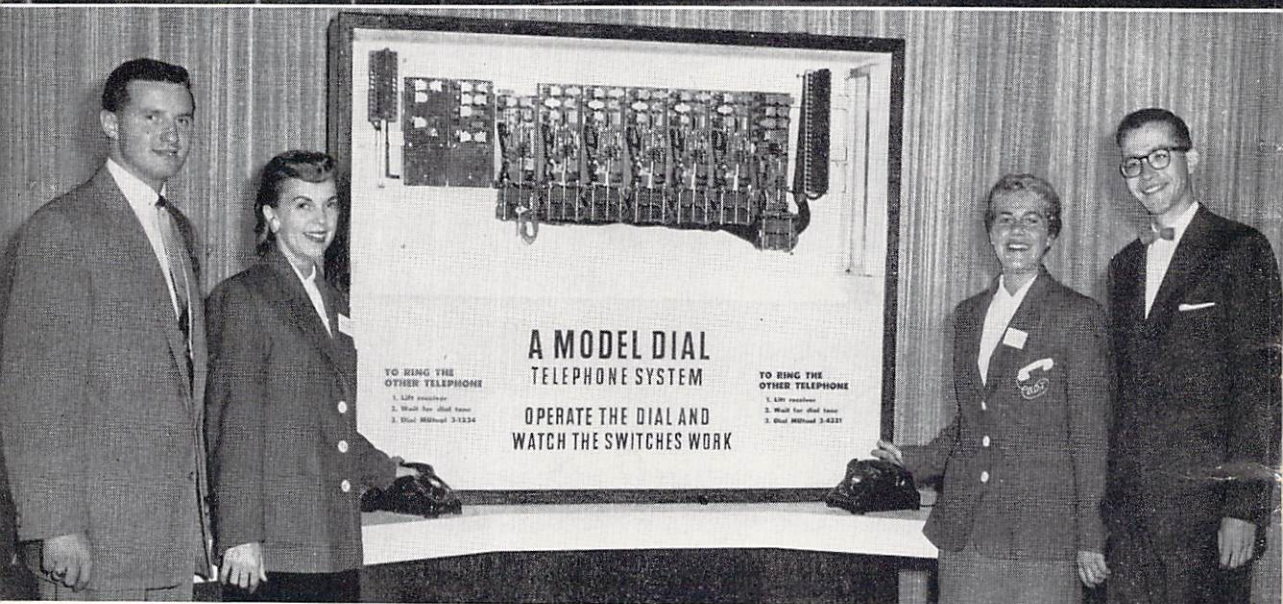
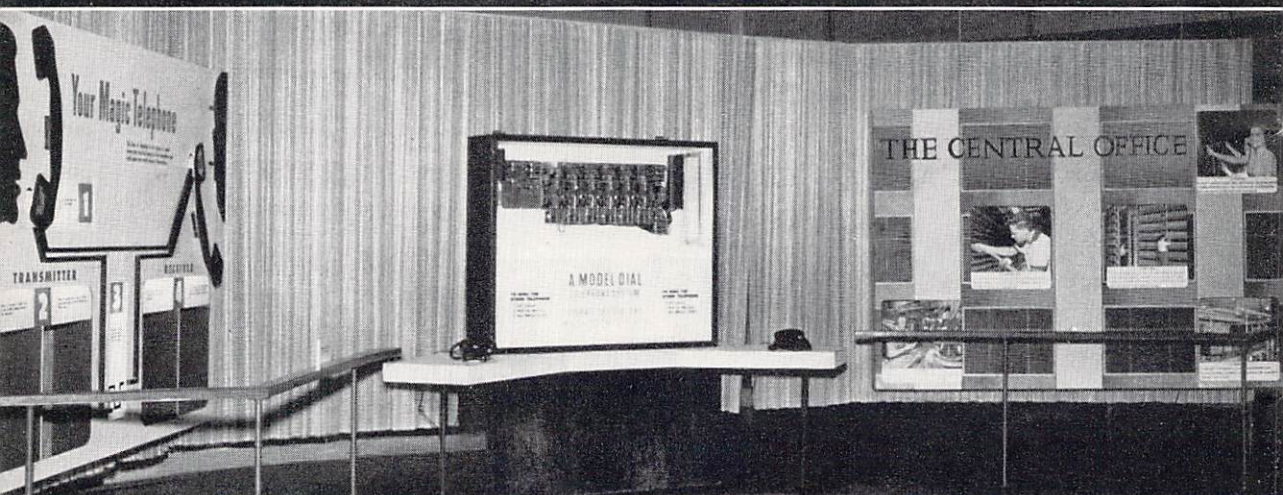
Manual to Dial in 29 seconds. This sums up activity in West Vancouver just before midnight on September 8 when the Walnut automatic system went into operation. Top left—Gathered around Miss Ivy Adams, chief operator, are her hard-working lieutenants—Miss Daphnie Graham, Mrs. Edna Gaston, Mrs. Edna Saunders, Mrs. Elva Williams and Mrs. Betty Desmarais. Top right—As the zero hour approaches, Mrs. Marjorie Nelson puts through one of the last calls on the old board. Left—Making ready to pull heat coils are Warren Barker, Dick Boulding, Roy Peers, George Grant, Mike Jones and Fred Van Esson. Below left—Walnut goes into service as Cut-over Despatcher Hugh Simpson signals Dick Welford to pull blocking tools. Centre—Ken Cowper, cut-over co-ordinator, on the air with CKLG news editor, Pat Burns, during an on-the-spot broadcast. Right—Bob Bell at the Walnut test desk. Photos by Graphic Industries Ltd.





Kamloops is growing in importance as a telephone centre. For many years it has been a key district office and, more recently, was made a division headquarters for both the Plant and Commercial Departments in the interior of B. C. The Kamloops Sentinel, the daily newspaper there, visited the telephone office not long ago to take pictures of the new division offices, which subsequently appeared in that publication. They are reproduced here. Top left—J. R. Crawford, division commercial manager. Top right—E. J. Davis, division plant manager. Centre—Miss A. Skora (left), formerly a member of the District Commercial staff, who has left the Company, and Miss Jessie McCallum, division commercial clerk. Bottom—Miss E. Graham, district plant clerk (left), and Frank Endersby, staff assistant to the division plant manager.

Telephony at the P.N.E.



Two colorful telephone displays—one highlighting the magic of telephony and the other the wide range of modern subscriber equipment—featured the commercial section of the Pacific National Exhibition this year. The Company's permanent exhibit in the B. C. Building was revamped and improved, and a display was also entered in the builders wing. The permanent exhibit (above) emphasized distance dialing, job opportunities in the industry, microwave, radiotelephony and automatic systems, a working model being used to display the last-mentioned. Both exhibits were staffed by telephone employees, four of whom are pictured above. From left to right are Per Danielsen, Miss Pat Kaye, Miss Mary Mackenzie and Pat Blake.



The telephone exhibit in the builders display featured color telephones, the Company's pre-wiring program for new homes, the Speakerphone and a number of other convenient telephone items. There was considerable interest in the color instruments, with eight models on display. Queried as to color preference, most fair-goers chose turquoise, with beige a close second, although many persons selected more than one color. Attendants in the top picture are (left to right) Misses Darleen McDonough, Diane Rea, Ruth Richardson and Isobel Ferguson. The bottom picture shows Miss McDonough with "Miss Chilliwack" (Marion Meehan) and "Miss Maple Ridge" (Alice Brecht), also Company employees.



Work on the Dog Mountain aerial tramway—only means of access to the TD-2 microwave relay site near Hope—calls for the combined skills of alpinist, logger, steel worker, rock-driller, telephone man and several other trades. Top left — The mountain looks deceptively easy in this picture, as logging operations are carried on to clear the ground at the base of the right-of-way for the tram. Above—High up the slope, members of the donkey-engine crew lash cable to a stump so the engine can pull itself to the top. Left—The donkey engine, which was used to haul materials to the top, inches its way up the steep slope. Bottom—Two drillers from G. W. Ledingham Co. Ltd., contractors for the tramway, bear down with their noisy tool, biting 12 feet into the rock for anchors at the base of the tramway.



The tramway is nearing completion, and soon men and materials will climb the 4900-foot peak in about 20 minutes, where before it took hours of foot-slogging. Top right—The superstructure of the lower terminal, from which will hang the sheaves which will support the cables for the tramway. Above—A close view of the base of the tramway, which consists of reinforced concrete bedded many feet into the rock. Right—Bob Wilson, foreman on the job, talks to his mountaintop camp from an “outdoor booth” located under a large rock at the 1600-foot level. Bottom—Here are the three men who are playing key roles in construction of the tramway. They are (left to right) Bob McLellan, consulting engineer and designer; Bruce Whalley, Northwest Telephone Company engineer, and Mr. Wilson.





During the past 12 months, "mechanized" operation in the Company's Directory Department has converted 180,000 of the 240,000 cards, which make up the department's directory delivery records, from written to punch cards. Showing approval as they examine one of the new cards are Arthur L. Cull (right), directory supervisor, and George Holmes, production supervisor.

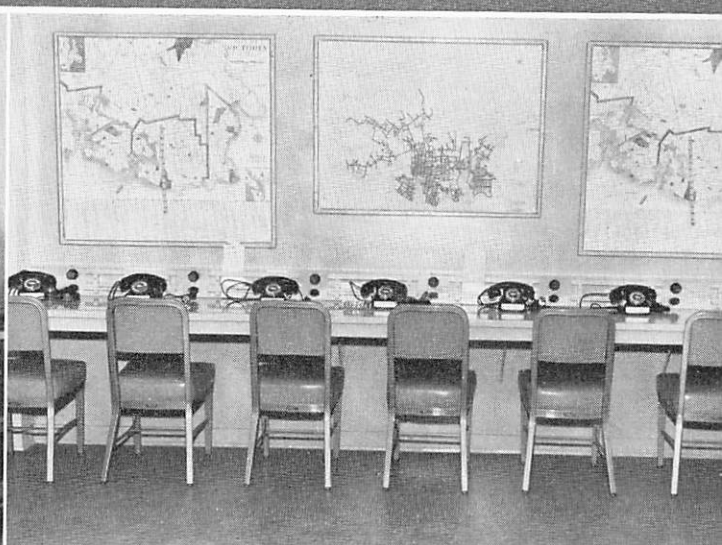


Indicative of the growth which will take place between directories are these neatly stacked telephone books which form the Directory Department's reserve stock on the fourth floor of the William Farrell Building. Vic Marasco selects 20 directories, weighing roughly 80 lbs., for distribution to new subscribers.



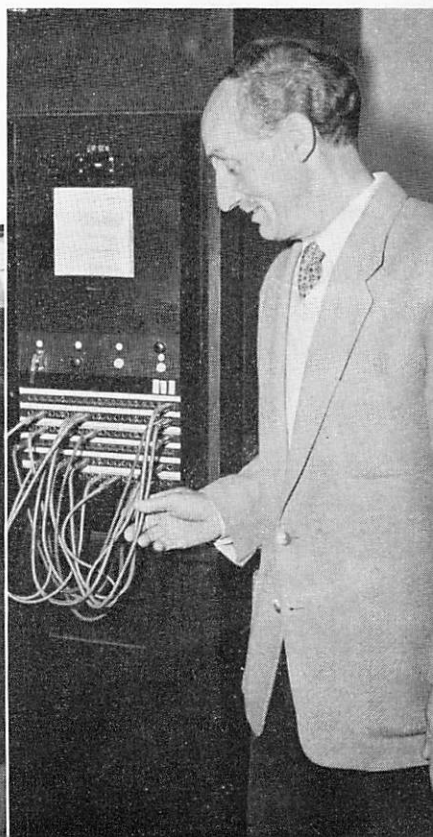
The addition of an interspersed gang punch device to one of the Type 026 I.B.M. machines has speeded the change-over of 8,100 West and Whytecliff delivery cards. The operator simply programs the machine to duplicate the information from the original punch card and add the new prefix, Walnut 2 or Westmore 3. Busy operating this machine is Miss Mary Stananought. Photos by Jack Lindsay.

P.B.X.'s For Any Purpose



P.B.X.'s and specially tailored equipment play an important part in a fast-growing telephone system. Typical of the most modern P.A.B.X. is the 100-line switchboard serving the new B. C. Electric Co. Ltd. office building in Victoria. Left—Miss Rose Gagliardi, supervisor, and Miss Kaye Cuthbertson. The additional installation of a "trouble" desk (right), located in the same room as the P.A.B.X., enables a trained staff to handle trouble calls in the event of a power failure.

One of the largest P.B.X.'s in the B.C. Telephone Company's system is the seven-position, 500-line, board at H.M.C. Dockyard. Below—Mrs. G. Brock, chief operator, and Lieut.-Cmdr. A. M. Cockeram, R.C.N. Right — J. O'Hanlon, civilian telecommunications officer, demonstrates the features of the patch panel which he designed. This device permits telephones on vessels of the fleet, regardless of where they are moored, to remain associated with the same local numbers. Photos by Bill Halkett and Dept. of National Defence.





Each One a Queen. At Kitimat, in the Fraser Valley and on Vancouver Island, these members of the Company were chosen to reign over local fairs and celebrations. Left—Miss Alice Pitcairn, local representative at Kitimat, after being acclaimed "Miss Kitimat of 1956" at July 1 celebrations. Right—Miss Alice Brecht of the Haney operating staff who competed in the "Miss P.N.E." contest as "Miss Maple Ridge".



Below left—Miss Marion Meehan, Chilliwack Commercial Department, who was chosen "Miss Cultus Lake". She competed at the P.N.E. as "Miss Chilliwack". Below right—Miss Sharon Williams crowned "Cowichan Lumber Queen" by retiring monarch, Miss Shirley Lilligard. Miss Williams represented her Island community as "Miss Cowichan Lake".



TELEPHONE MARINE 9171

BRITISH COLUMBIA TELEPHONE COMPANY

W. S. PIPES
VICE-PRESIDENT AND
GENERAL MANAGER

768 SEYMOUR STREET.
VANCOUVER 2, CANADA

To All Employees:

Industrial safety is and has always been recognized by our Company as an essential element in all its operations. Earlier this year, however, when the safety programme of the Company was reviewed, management decided that our programme would achieve better results through expressing the safety philosophy as a written policy. To this end, the following safety policy has been established for our Company:

"The Demands Of The Service Or The Importance Of The Job Are
Never So Great That We Cannot Take Time To Do The Job Safely."

The object of this presentation is to communicate our safety policy to all employees and to point out to each of you that it will require the closest of teamwork between management and staff if we are to operate within the framework of this policy. While this safety policy merely expresses an ideal, it can, through correct application by all parties, become a dynamic force throughout the Company.

I believe that a fine safety record is the reflection of an enthusiastic and efficient organization. An efficient employee and a safe worker are one and the same person. Without the constant application of safety in all phases of our operations, we cannot expect to achieve the quality and quantity of production demanded of a modern telephone system.

In closing, I would remind each employee that all work hazards cannot be eliminated. The secret of safety in an operation like ours is for the individual employee to know and appreciate the hazards inherent in his work, and to practice safe working methods in the performance of his duties. Remember - if you do not know how to do a task safely, do not attempt its completion. Where any doubt exists as to the safe performance of your job, seek the assistance and help of your supervisor or another qualified employee.

I ask for your active participation in our safety programme; let us give real meaning to our safety policy.



Vice-President & General Manager

WSP/am

Plant Projects

ADDITIONAL aerial and underground cable has been placed throughout the Nelson exchange area and along the Nelson-Balfour highway under a recent \$69,000 expansion and improvement program. An important part of the job entailed placing of submarine cable across the west arm of Kootenay Lake. Later this year, an additional position of switchboard will be placed in operation.

* * *

Two projects have recently been completed in Vanderhoof. A second position of switchboard has been installed, and additional outside plant has been placed to reduce the number of subscribers on party lines and to allow for future growth.

* * *

Work has recently been completed in Port Alberni by heavy gangs under Foremen William "Wink" McDougall and Colin Fox. Aerial cable containing 2800 miles of wire was placed in the Maitland Street and Argyle Street areas, while a second project of the same type was under way in the Beaver Creek area.

Dial for Peace River

DAWSON Creek and Pouce Coupe will have automatic telephone service less than a year after the North-west Telephone Company took over the B.C. portion of the Peace River area from the Federal Government.

The acquisition took place on July 1. By mid-August work was under way on a new, automatic telephone building at Dawson Creek, and additions were being made to the existing switchboard, pending conversion to dial operation scheduled for April, 1957.

At the same time, plans were finalized for a new telephone building in Pouce Coupe, to house an automatic system there, which is expected to go into operation within the next few months.

The Dawson Creek building, to be located on 102nd Avenue between Twelfth Street and 12 A Street, will house a business office and long distance and dial assistance switchboard, in addition to the automatic equipment.

Income Up This Year

THE B.C. Telephone Company in its first interim financial statement issued August 1, reported a net income of \$2,353,360 for the six months ended June 30, 1956, compared with \$1,711,753 for the same period of 1955. The statement showed a balance of \$1,766,485 after making provision for dividends on preference and preferred shares. The comparable figure for last year was \$1,212,378.

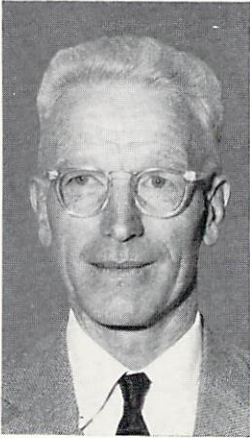
Operating revenue for the six-month period totalled \$17,883,058, compared with \$15,866,250 for the same period last year, and total operating expenses amounted to \$12,269,247, compared with \$11,298,303 for the same period of 1955.

Gordon Farrell, president, indicated that the 1956 earnings reflect "an ever increasing demand on the Company's long distance facilities," which has resulted in an 18 percent rise in revenue from this source over the same period of last year.

Mr. Farrell stated that during the six months ended June 30 the Company had spent \$11,800,000 on additions and improvements to telephone plant and that it was expected that this figure would reach the \$30,000,000-mark by the end of the year. The statement also showed a net increase of 18,757 telephones for the first half of 1956.



The B. C. Telephone Company has again been honored by the U. S. investment publication, *Financial World*, for "distinguished achievement in annual reporting". One of those chosen from a total of 5000 entries, the Company's report won a Merit Award for the fourth consecutive year.

*A. H. Martinson**N. J. Dunlop**J. A. MacInnes**F. A. Wolokoff*

Engineers in New Posts

EIGHT members of the Engineering Department have been appointed to new positions, three of them to the newly-created posts of district outside plant engineer.

The new district outside plant engineers are **A. H. Martinson** and **N. J. Dunlop**, formerly outside exchange plant engineers, and **J. A. MacInnes**, formerly engineering assistant.

Fourth appointment in the outside plant group is that of **F. A. Wolokoff**, formerly field engineer, who becomes toll outside plant engineer.

In the equipment group, **G. F. MacFarlane** has been appointed automatic equipment engineer, and **D. M. Carter** has been made automatic circuit engineer.

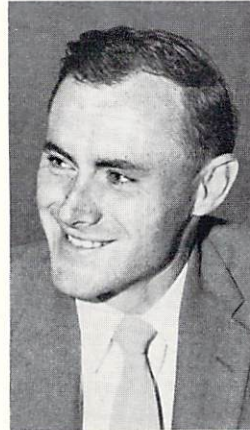
J. W. Story and **R. J. McGregor**, formerly engineering assistants, have been appointed to the positions of toll projects engineer and telegraph and protection engineer, respectively, in the transmission group.

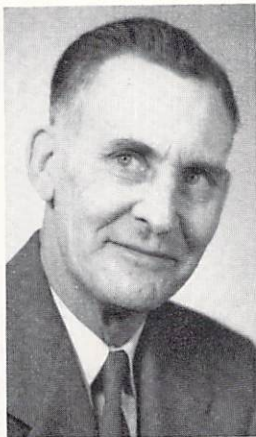
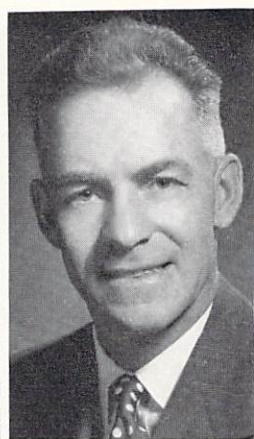


WORK has been under way at Lake Cowichan on a plant project which adds more than 390 miles of wire to the outside cable facilities in the area.

* * *

Two projects, costing more than \$165,000 are well under way in Nanaimo. Heavy construction crews have been reinforcing and extending portions of the existing underground cable system in the business area, while aerial cable and open wire have been placed in various other parts of the exchange area.

*G. F. MacFarlane**D. M. Carter**J. W. Story**R. J. McGregor*

*C. J. Finch**W. R. Graham**D. H. Greenwood**C. J. O'Connor*

Interior Districts Rearranged

THE B. C. Telephone Company has rearranged its organization in the northern interior of B. C., with the establishment of a new district headquarters at Terrace and movement of the Quesnel district office to Prince George.

The rearrangement is brought about by increasing expansion in the interior of the province and recent acquisition by North-west Telephone Company, an associate, of the Federal Government telephone system in the B. C. Block of the Peace River area.

Charles J. Finch of the B. C. Telephone Company sales engineering staff in Vancouver moves to Terrace as district commercial and traffic manager, and **W. R. Graham**, district plant manager at Quesnel, has set up a new headquarters in Terrace. Their territory will stretch from Vanderhoof to Kitimat, inclusive.

David H. Greenwood, district commercial and traffic supervisor at Quesnel, has moved to Prince George as commercial and traffic manager for the two companies, with a more central headquarters from which to administer Prince George and the newly-acquired exchanges of Dawson Creek, Fort St. John and Pouce Coupe. Mr. Greenwood's territory also will include operations in Quesnel, Williams Lake and Wells and will stretch west to Bella Coola.

Charles O'Connor, district plant chief for the North-west Telephone Company at Prince George, has taken over plant duties for the B. C. Telephone Company in the section also covered by Mr. Greenwood, in addition to the Peace River area. Mr.

O'Connor has been promoted to the position of district plant manager.

Brochures Aid Sales

"ARE you a telephone saint or sinner?"

This catchy little title adorns a brochure published by the B. C. Telephone Company and distributed at the Pacific National Exhibition to inspire subscribers to include courtesy in their telephone calls.

The two-color "saint or sinner" pamphlet is the latest of five brochures printed this year.

Largest brochure features the multiple uses of mobile telephone service for industry and business. It is distributed to potential customers by the North-west Telephone Company.

B. C. Telephone Company's Sales Engineering Department has two important pamphlets—"How B. C. Telephone Teletype Can Help Your Business" and "Long Distance Services at Low Cost".

The Teletype booklet lists all the benefits of Teletype and names many B. C. firms who now employ Teletype systems. Five long distance services—the call collect plan, "Zenith" service, contract calling, sequence calling and long distance credit cards—are outlined in a blue and white brochure.

A brochure entitled "Good Telephone Planning in Your New Home" points out the savings and benefits of pre-wiring. The brochure also features additional conveniences such as portable telephones, spring cords, extra directory listings, etc.

West Cut-over Fastest on Record

THE telephone exchange that was expected to be "of great convenience, especially in the summer months when many people go to the North Shore", when it opened in 1914, added another page to its history at midnight on September 8.

In the fastest cut-over on B. C. Telephone Company records — 29 seconds — the new \$2,000,000 Walnut 2 automatic system took over the task of serving West Vancouver telephone subscribers. At the same time, Whytecliff subscribers assumed the new identity of Westmore 3.

Feature of the conversion was the introduction of free calling between the West Vancouver area and North Vancouver and between West and Vancouver. More than 8000 telephones came into the free calling area, including 7500 in West itself, and some 600 in Whytecliff.

Interest in the new automatic system was widespread among Company personnel. In addition to those actually on duty, scores visited the office the night of the cut-over to inspect the building and witness an on-the-spot broadcast from the switchroom over facilities of Radio Station CKLG. At an informal gathering following the cut, Eric Mallett, North Shore district commercial manager, presented corsages to Miss Ivy

Adams, West chief operator, and Miss Mary Eadie, former West local representative.

At a reception on September 12, the Hon. James Sinclair, Minister of Fisheries and M.P. for Coast-Capilano, officially opened the new building. Gordon Farrell, president; W. S. Pipes, vice-president and general manager; Eric Mallett and West Vancouver Reeve John Richardson also took part in the opening ceremonies.

The ultra-modern automatic building was started in April, 1955, and in November of that year, Canadian (B.C.) Telephones and Supplies Ltd. technicians entered the scene, completing the installation two months ago.

The West Vancouver telephone system, established with 35 subscribers in 1914, originally was operated by John Lawson, the first white settler in West Vancouver, from the back of the Hollyburn General Store at Marine Drive and Seventeenth Street. Three years later it moved to the present site of the manual office.

Since its creation the West Vancouver exchange has grown rapidly, particularly in the last 15 years. In 1939, there were 1800 telephones in the area; today there are 8100, and the number of calls per business day has risen from 3000 to an average of 35,000.



Cut-over of the new Walnut automatic system in West Vancouver at midnight September 8 was followed four days later by an official opening of the building by Hon. James Sinclair, Canadian Minister of Fisheries. Mr. Sinclair cut a ribbon across the front door after declaring the building open at a gathering of leading West Vancouver citizens and Company officials. Left to right—W. S. Pipes, vice-president and general manager; Gordon Farrell, president; Mr. Sinclair, Reeve John Richardson and Eric Mallett, North Shore district commercial manager. Photo by Graphic Industries Ltd.

TV Link to Victoria

VICTORIA will be linked to the B. C. mainland by a microwave radio relay system by the end of 1956—a year and several months before scheduled completion of the 3800-mile cross-Canada system now under construction between Sydney, N.S. and Vancouver.

The Victoria-Mainland system will consist of two links. The first hop will be from the Company's William Farrell Building in Vancouver to a point on Salt Spring Island, and the second leg from there to CHEK-TV, the new Victoria television station on Cedar Hill.

The westernmost microwave link will be so arranged that it can be tied in with the nation-wide system but, unlike the coast-to-coast mainland system, it will be used exclusively for television transmission. The Sydney, N.S.-Vancouver network is being constructed for additional Trans-Canada long distance circuits and will be used also for television. It is expected to be completed in 1958.

New Agreement Signed

THE B.C. Telephone Company and the Federation of Telephone Workers of B. C. have signed a new agreement covering a 22-month period from June 1, 1956, to March 31, 1958.

The retroactive agreement provides for hourly increases of seven cents effective June 1, this year, with a further six cents

effective June 1, 1957, for plant employees.

Clerical workers receive six cents this year as of the same date, with an additional six cents per hour effective June 1 next year.

Traffic operating forces have a new wage schedule embracing increases averaging approximately those received by the other groups.

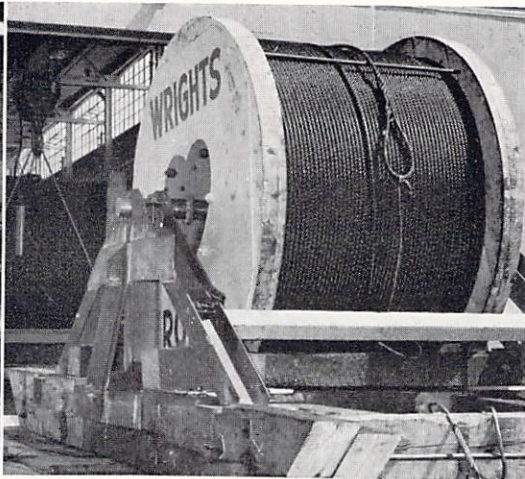
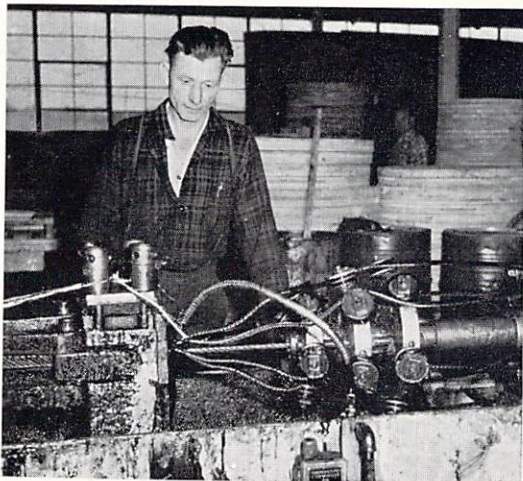
Other awards include increased board and lodging allowances, more generous sick pay provisions, overtime payment revisions, improved telephone service concessions and vacation schedules, revised apprenticeship schedules and adjustments in progression periods in certain categories in all divisions.

Interim Book Interlisted

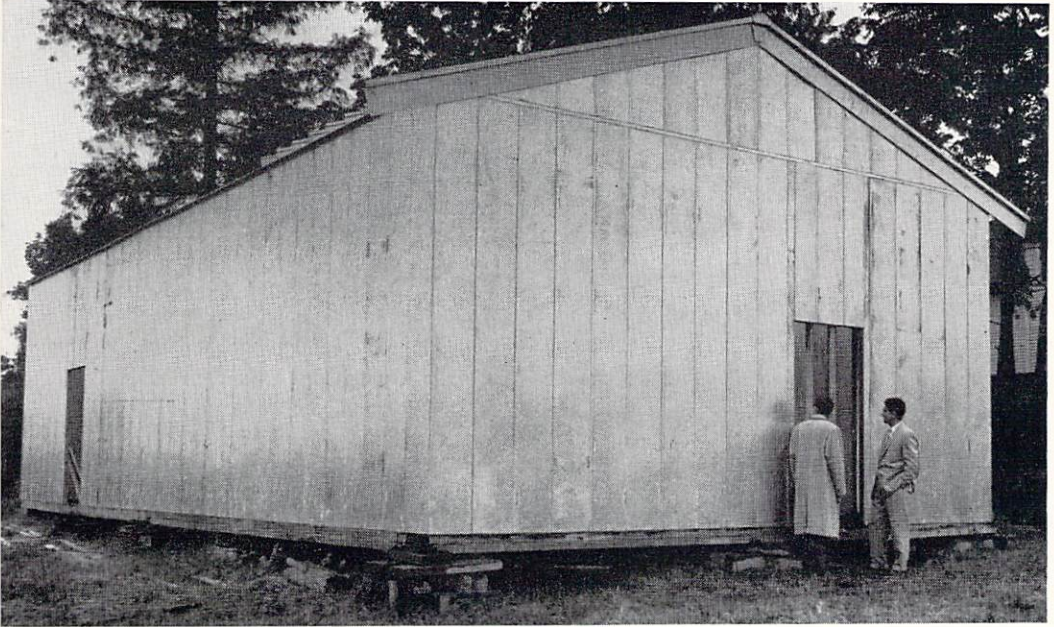
INTERLISTED pages feature the North Vancouver-West Vancouver interim directory issued in conjunction with the conversion of West Vancouver to automatic operation at midnight, September 8.

York, Willow, Walnut, Westmore and Woodside numbers are listed alphabetically as a single area in both white and YELLOW PAGES. Previously only the latter section was interlisted. To aid telephone users in locating addresses, the letters "NV" or "WV" were added to each listing, indicating North Vancouver or West Vancouver.

A complete directory containing both white and YELLOW PAGES was delivered in North and West Vancouver, while Vancouver subscribers received books containing only the white pages.



One of the largest projects ever handled by the Vancouver plant of Wright's Canadian Ropes Ltd. was the construction of the support and traction cables for the Dog Mountain aerial tramway. Left—Jim Eden operates the large cable-making machine which weaves thousands of strands of wire into a 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ "-diameter cable. Right—The 20-ton reel of cable loaded on a flat car, ready for the journey to Dog Mountain. Photo at left by Jack Lindsay, other by Graphic Industries Ltd.



Pictured above is a prototype of the pre-fabricated steel buildings presently being erected at the B. C. tower sites for the forthcoming trans-Canada microwave system. F. P. Blake (left) and Darwin Slacke, branch accountant of Armco Metal and Drainage Products of Canada Ltd., constructors of the buildings, discuss the features of the pre-fab design. Photo by Williams Bros.

Long Distance Facilities Increased

LONG distance facilities between Vancouver and Seattle and between Vancouver and Edmonton were greatly increased in August as the result of a concerted, round-the-clock effort on the part of three major telephone systems.

The B. C. Telephone Company worked closely with the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company and with Alberta Government Telephones to rush equipment into service, which had not been scheduled for operation before this fall.

Projects to increase Vancouver-Seattle and Vancouver-Edmonton circuits were given top priority, as unusually heavy summer long distance traffic taxed all facilities and traffic operating forces.

The two coastal telephone systems increased facilities between Vancouver and Seattle by a third, bringing to more than 70 the number of circuits between the two centres. At the same time, work was rushed on the Calgary-Edmonton portion of the new Vancouver-Edmonton route to enlarge facilities by 50 percent.

In addition to the new circuits, 10 new operator positions of switchboard were installed in Vancouver long distance head-

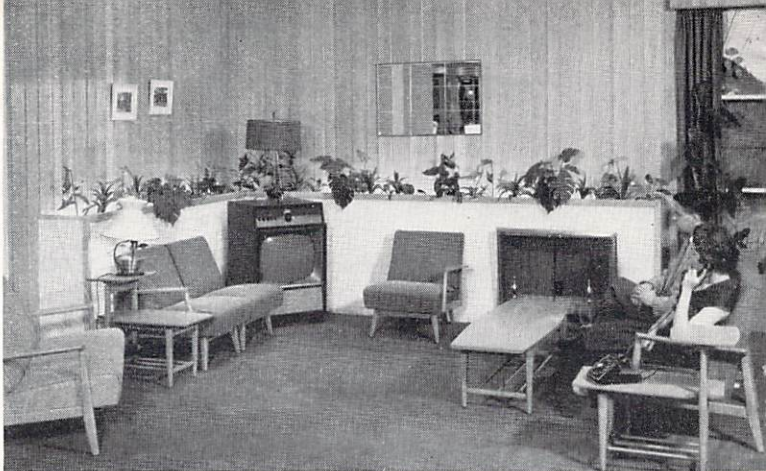
quarters at 555 Seymour Street, and an extensive advertising campaign was carried out to keep the toll operating forces up to full strength.

In addition to the recent expansion of facilities between the three points, plans have been approved for a microwave radio relay link between Vancouver and Seattle, via Haney and Bellingham, which will take care of future circuit requirements. In the meantime, there will be additions to existing physical line systems by means of carrier installations.

IN Japan, public telephones play a particularly important role, for the supply of subscriber facilities is far behind demand. "Telephone Houses" are being constructed, each house containing booths for both local and long distance calling.

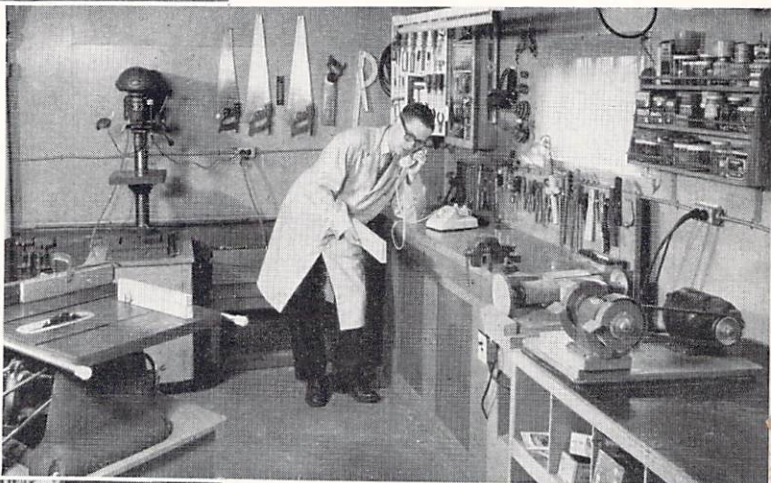
Newly-designed semi-public telephones, colored red and installed in drug stores and tobacco shops, have so appealed to the public that they are referred to as "Aka-Denwa"—pretty little dolls. Streamlined booths, installed in Tokyo's busy streets, have light grey bodies and red tops. They are popularly known as "Tancho"—red heads.

Versatility of telephones in today's home is depicted in this two-page preview showing seven convenient locations. A living room phone promotes relaxation as much as an extra lounge chair.



Monday wash-day blues are enough without having to run to answer a ringing telephone. The "utility" of a utility room is emphasized if there is a convenient extension as shown in this picture.

The do-it-yourself enthusiast has the perfect workshop set-up if he has a handy extension in his private little world of hammers, saws and chisels.

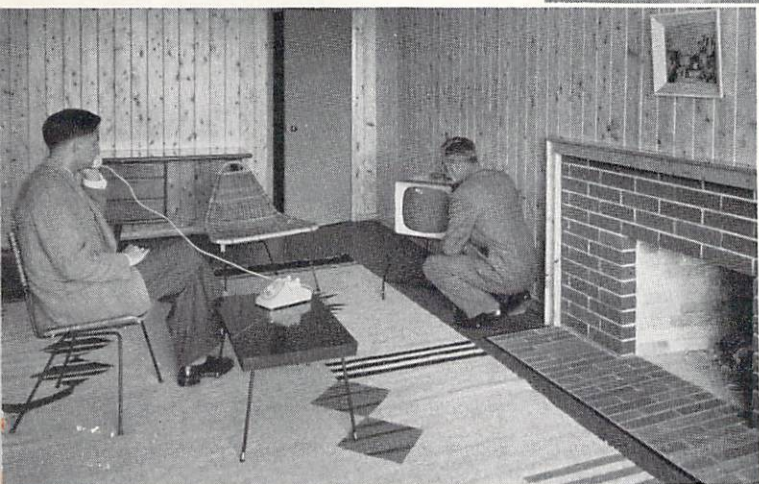


Here, in a natural, informal outdoor setting, you can conduct a private sales meeting or just entertain a friend. A telephone is always at your side for that important call.



A second telephone is a "must" in most modern homes, and most families prefer to have it in the bedroom where those slumber-disturbing calls can be taken before the entire household is awake.

Additional telephones, colored to match Mrs. Housewife's kitchen hues, save time and walking if a chatty neighbor happens to call during meal preparation.



The recreation room is the next stop on our photographer's journey through a modern home. The television repairman is handy when there is a telephone in the playroom.

Almost hidden in the carport is an extension bell which informs you of a call while gardening or tinkering beneath the automobile. All photos by Williams Bros.



Pioneer Parade

By PEGGY LOVE

THIS issue of TELEPHONE TALK gives us our first opportunity to report on the seventh annual picnic held on July 28 at Peace Portal Memorial Park. This year we were hosted by our American friends of the Bellingham Council, Charles B. Hopkins Chapter No. 30.

A perfect summer day drew 350 Pioneers and their families to the picnic grounds to enjoy a varied program of races and softball. The Canadian men's team was defeated by the American team, but our Dexter girls won an easy victory over their U.S. adversaries.

Bert Stevens, picnic chairman for Chapter 53, was assisted by Mary Bell, Agnes Falconer, Ann Lyon, Art Hardy, Norm Adkins, Jack Smith, Bob Lindsay and Harold Pombert. Art Pollard, in his act of clown, was hero to the children who followed him around all day, gazing in wide-eyed wonder at his tricks.

If you remember, we sold raffle tickets around the various Company departments before the picnic. The draw took place at Peace Portals and was won by Mrs. Avril Kitson, Information supervisor, and Mrs. Sadie Jaggard of Dial Service. And so ended another happy gathering of Telephone Pioneers.



Looking back some 40 years is Miss Jessie Wilson, long-term employee of Imperial Oil Ltd., shown "using" one of the magneto telephone sets in service when she first became associated with the telephone industry. Miss Wilson was on the operating staff of the B. C. Telephone Company's Seymour office for 10 years before she became a P.B.X. operator. She is pictured at her retirement party with Charles Waring, office manager for Imperial Oil Ltd. Photo by J. Gibson.

Until now, Bert's immediate interest has been the picnic. However, he has, at the same time, been working on a winter program. A bingo party is planned for October, and a travelogue for November. Look for the exact dates in your News Bulletin.

Ann Lyon has booked the Arcadian Hall, 2214 Main Street, for our Rummage Sale on Saturday, February 2. Definite plans for collecting donations have not yet been arranged. Watch your Bulletin for further developments.

So far, only one suggestion has come in for a standing head for this column. Is it possible that only one Pioneer out of 950 has an original idea for "our" page? Now that your holidays are over, get busy and send in your suggestions. This is your page. Use it.

Atlantic Cable Complete

TELEPHONE history was made on August 14 when the British Post Office cable ship, *Monarch*, dropped the final portion of the east-west section of the Trans-Atlantic submarine cable into the sea at Clarenville, Newfoundland.

Without ceremony, except for handshakes between veteran splicers, engineers and crew members, laying of the westernmost section of the cable was complete.

Sequel to the \$40,000,000 cable laying operation, which took 13 months, will be October 15 when the two cables open for service between Montreal and London.

The project was a joint undertaking of the Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation, the British Post Office and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The overseas circuits terminate in the C.O.T.C. headquarters in Montreal and will be connected to the Trans-Canada Telephone System through the Bell Telephone Company's overseas switchboard in a building opposite the C.O.T.C. structure.

Credited with Saving Life

MRS. NORA ROGERS, Dexter operator, is credited with saving the life of Mrs. Jacquelon Davis, 76 North Templeton, and her dog Jiggs. Mrs. Rogers answered Mrs. Davis' call for a doctor but when connected to Medical Phone Service Mrs. Davis was overcome by gas fumes and unable to speak. The operator passed the subscriber's number to Medical Services who immediately summoned the Fire Department's inhalator crew.



Monte Butler (left), B.C. Chapter 53 Pioneer president, and Toby Somers, president of the Bellingham Council, admire the fine weather and large crowd which combined to make the 1956 picnic one of the best ever.

Clown Art Pollard crowns Miss Ann Lyon "Queen for a Day".



Gathered around the picnic table are Frank Hamilton, Miss Doris Wright, Mrs. May Hamilton, Mrs. Jean Nesbitt, Mrs. Lilly Babington and Miss Agnes Campbell.

The reception table was staffed by Bert Stevens, Miss Agnes Falconer, Jack Borrie and Mrs. J. Peard.



Seattle Council president Louis Dorst and Mrs. Nellie Keenan, president of the Charles B. Hopkins Chapter No. 30, Seattle.

Joining Art Pollard for a little fun in the sun are Mrs. Rita Towel and Jack Smith, refreshment conveners for the picnic.



The Bellingham traffic girls' softball team pose for their portrait just before taking the field against the Dexter team.



James Keirnan, Ed Leonard, Louis Dorst and Carl Parsons, camera fans all, discuss the picture-taking techniques of TELEPHONE TALK'S ubiquitous photographer.



A well-provisioned table is an asset to any picnic. Pictured are Miss Mary Bell, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Dickson, Miss Lyon and Art Hardy.



Norm Adkins and Mr. and Mrs. Alf Hatter pause for a few minutes to reminisce about past picnics. Photos by F. P. Blake.





The Alma operating staff hosted Plant Man Thomas West on the eve of his retirement. Left—Fellow employees gathered for the occasion in the office garden. Right—Guy Cave, Cedar plant chief, presents Mr. West with a Rolex wrist watch. Photos by Williams Bros.

Thomas West Retires

THOMAS WEST and his wife were guests of honor at a tea held at the Alma office on July 27 on the occasion of Mr. West's retirement after nearly 30 years service. The former Cedar central office maintenance man was presented with a wrist watch by Guy Cave on behalf of his fellow workers, and Norman Pettigrew turned over the Telephone Workers' (Plant Division) Benevolent Society cheque.

Since joining the Company as an apprentice switchboard man in September, 1926, Mr. West has served in Nanaimo, Kamloops and Vancouver. Mr. and Mrs. West are retiring to a home they recently finished at Cordova Bay, just outside Victoria, and plan to drive south in January or February for a short vacation.

Good-bye to Miss Young

SERVICE Representative Miss Constance Young served the B. C. Telephone Company's Commercial Department for nearly 30 years before her retirement on June 30.

Miss Young's career with the Company began in the Royal City where she worked with the New Westminster Commercial Department from November, 1926, until April, 1943. At that time she transferred to Vancouver, and in August, 1946, became a sales clerk. December, 1948, brought another change in position—that of service representative—which Miss Young retained until her recent retirement.

A gift of money was received by Miss Young on behalf of her co-workers.

Farewell to Rodney Course

A HEAVY-DUTY electric saw and a \$1000 cheque promised to speed completion of the home on the Sechelt Peninsula that Electrician Rod Course has been building for some time now. Power and Light Supervisor Jack Morrow presented the saw on behalf of Mr. Course's fellow employees at a short ceremony in the electrical shop. The cheque was the gift of the Telephone Workers' (Plant Division) Benevolent Society.

Mr. Course joined the B.C. Telephone Co. in 1929, and later transferred to Canadian (B. C.) Telephones and Supplies Ltd. During World War II he was with the army and in 1947 returned to the B. C. Telephone Co. as an electrician, the position he held on his retirement.

Miss Hoey Retires

AN unbroken, 34-year career with the B.C. Telephone Company, has ended for Miss Irene Hoey who has retired as chief operator at Ladner.

Miss Hoey spent most of her life in Ladner, and can almost be considered a native daughter. Salinas, California, was her birthplace, but she moved to Ladner at the age of five. She joined the B. C. Telephone as an operator in 1922 at Ladner, where she remained 14 years until being transferred to Port Coquitlam as chief operator. She returned to Ladner 12 years later.

Mrs. Vivian Fearn, who joined the Company in 1950, is the new chief operator.

Retires in Victoria

GEORGE A. KEIGHLEY, Victoria Plant Department, retired recently for general health reasons on a disability pension. Mr. Keighley worked intermittently with the Plant Department since 1921 as groundman, apprentice lineman and driver, and lineman, serving in Nanaimo, Courtenay, Nelson, Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria.



Orrie Prosnick (right) and prize-winning fish.

Abbotsford Man Injured in Fall

Ex-R.A.F. pilot, Edward J. Morgan, central office maintenance man at Abbotsford, won't be able to make a scheduled move to the Engineering Department for some time.

Mr. Morgan suffered a spinal fracture when he fell out of an apple tree and is now inside a cast.

A telephone man in England until he joined the air force in 1939, he came to Canada at the end of hostilities to join the B.C. Telephone Company.

Hooks "Biggest Fish"

ORRIE PROSNICK, Vancouver line and station repairman, distinguished himself as an angler in *The Vancouver Sun* Salmon Derby this year by hooking a 26-lb., 12-oz. salmon to win second prize—a 12-foot plastic boat. "It's the biggest fish I ever hooked," said Orrie, who used a No. 5 Wonder spoon.

Alarm for Power Cable

A TROUBLE-DETECTING alarm system will safeguard the B.C. Electric Company Ltd. high-voltage submarine power cable to Vancouver Island. The electronic "watchdog" will warn of a drop in pressure inside cables which contain nitrogen gas to keep out water in case of a leak or breakage.

The vital alarm circuit is being installed by the B. C. Telephone Company in the Galiano-Salt Spring Islands area. The project includes placing open wire, erecting

poles and laying telephone submarine cable.

Alarm connections will be at "gas pressure houses" at locations at Point Roberts and Galiano, Parker and Salt Spring Islands. It will safeguard only submerged cable sections of the giant \$6,000,000 power project. Leakage trouble or a short circuit will immediately flick a light at the telephone exchange nearest the trouble zone. Operators then inform B.C. Electric Company officials.

Emergency pumping equipment at each "gas pressure house" automatically starts when gas pressure drops below 300 pounds per square inch inside cables. Sufficient pressure is generated until repair crews arrive.

Sechelt Line Moved

THE B. C. Telephone Company has taken steps to reduce to a minimum interruptions in telephone service throughout the Sechelt Peninsula during the provincial government's extensive road improvement program.

Telephone gangs have been moving the Pender Harbour-Sechelt long distance circuits and some Pender Harbour local exchange lines to B.C. Electric Company Ltd. power poles.

This move is designed to keep the telephone lines, which formerly followed the route of the highway, clear of road blasting and other construction activity. Plans call for the eventual return of the telephone wires to a new pole line following the new highway.



Norman Pettigrew presents retiring electrician, Rod Course, with the Telephone Workers' (Plant Division) Benevolent Society \$1000 cheque while (left to right) Jack Morrow, Don Norris and Art Keane look on. Power and Light Supervisor Jack Morrow had earlier presented Mr. Course with a power saw from his fellow workers. Photo by Williams Bros.

Telephone News in Brief

MISS MARILYN PETHERBRIDGE of the Sidney operating staff was a runner-up in the annual queen contest staged by the Sidney and North Saanich Community Hall Association. At the Sidney Day celebrations Miss Petherbridge was one of the Queen's attendants.

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Representing the B. C. Telephone Company-sponsored Vanteen Manufacturing Company at the annual Junior Achievement convention in Oxford, Ohio, is Miss Noreen Ring, secretary and assistant sales manageress of Vanteen. Prior to leaving for the convention, Miss Ring was a summer employee with the Plant Accounting Department.

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Two Kamloops operators, Miss Barbara Ann Cocks and Miss Diana Andrew, were contestants for the "Miss Kamloops" title, a competition sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

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James Cruickshank, formerly foreman of the Switchboard Installation Department, has been appointed foreman of the Switchboard Shop.

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Extra-curricular duties of hard-working Aubrey Dayman, district repairman at Fernie, include being president of the Fernie Chamber of Commerce.



Installer Stan Davis (right) makes the final adjustment on the 5000th telephone to be installed in Chilliwack. Mrs. R. J. Cattermole (left) also had Nos. 5001 and 5002 installed as extensions in the master bedroom and den of her home at 614 Riverside Drive. Photo by Paul Raika.

Harry A. Purdy, district repairman at Port Coquitlam, is currently president of Branch 133, British Empire Service League, Canadian Legion.

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Members of the Victoria operating staff represented the Order of the Eastern Star on a quiz program in aid of the Canadian Cancer Society over Radio Station CJVI. Those participating as contestants were Mrs. Myra Collins, Mrs. Sally Walker, Miss Sheila MacKinnon and Miss Euphemia Nicholson.



Harry Purdy

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The training of a falcon was described by Clifford Sherlock, business office representative at Nelson, to members of the Nelson Rotary Club at their weekly luncheon. Mr. Sherlock, a keen sportsman and authority on falconry, was the organizer of the Cornish Falconry Society in England.

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L. M. "Renny" Butler, Victoria Plant Department, has moved to Vancouver to take the position of field accounting inspector in the Internal Audit Department. He joined the Company in 1939 and until recently was general plant clerk.

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Mrs. Vera Kitchener, local representative and chief operator at New Denver, resigned recently because of ill health. She worked in Nelson with the Commercial Department and in Vancouver as accounts clerk before going to New Denver in 1945. Succeeding Mrs. Kitchener is Miss Thelma George.

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Bill Buck, Vancouver Commercial, appeared in the recent U.B.C. Players Club Alumni production "I am a Camera". The play, by John van Druten, is based on a collection of short stories written about Berlin in the early Thirties.

Canada Savings Bonds

THE Government of Canada has announced another series of Canada Savings Bonds to go on sale this fall. The bonds, which will be called Series 11, will be available for purchase in the usual denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1000.

The Series 11 Bonds are 12½-year bonds dated November 1, 1956, and bear interest at 3¼% for the first 18 months, with increasing interest on a sliding scale to 4% during the last seven years' life of the bond. The average yield for the new Canada Savings Bond Series 11 is 3.76%. Company facilities will again be available to employees desiring to purchase bonds through payroll deduction.

A letter and application giving full particulars has been sent to each employee at his residence address. The bonds have an attractive rate of interest and can be converted into cash at any time at 100% of their face value, plus interest.

Appointment for K. Dawson

K. R. "KEN" DAWSON, well-known district repairman at Abbotsford since 1947, was recently appointed district foreman at Prince George.

He has joined the North-west Telephone Company after 17 years with the B. C. Telephone Company. He started at Trail as a pole tester and worked in several districts before moving to Abbotsford.

His wife and two daughters, Linda and

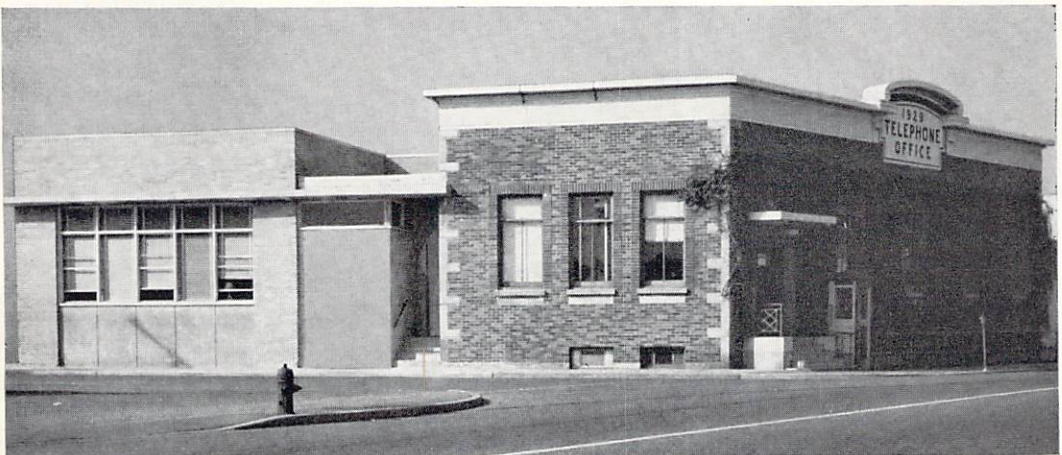


Prior to leaving for his new position, Charles Finch, newly-appointed district commercial and traffic manager at Terrace, was honored by members of the Commercial, Plant and Engineering Departments. Mr. Finch (right) is shown receiving the gift of his associates from Roy B. Murphy, sales engineer. Photo by Graphic Industries Ltd.

Sharon, accompanied him to Prince George where Sharon will continue her career as an operator in the Prince George office.

New district repairman at Abbotsford is Allan H. Busilla, formerly of the New Westminster Installation Department, who joined the Company in 1948.

APPROXIMATELY 300 Terrace subscribers were without service during a 40-hour period in July when fire destroyed a pole and a span of cable. A heavy gang was immediately despatched from Smithers to replace the burned section.



Major renovations and an addition to the Company's Chilliwack office has provided new quarters for the operating staff and an additional 2300 square feet of floor space for automatic equipment. At the same time a garage and stores building at Fifth Avenue, near Nowell Street, was completed. When the switchboard was moved from the old part of the building into the extension, the operators remained at their positions, and telephone service went on as usual. Photo by Jack Lindsay.

\$1 Million on Expansion

THE B. C. Telephone Company has spent well over \$1,000,000 on expansion and improvement of telephone facilities in areas west of the Rockies taken over from the Federal Government in April, 1954.

The Company's expansion program has made it possible to increase the number of telephones by more than 2000, a growth of over 50 percent.

Expansion and improvements have included extensions to outside plant facilities and switchboard additions or replacements in all the former government telephone central offices in B. C. In addition, many buildings have been enlarged or renovated; long distance facilities have been increased and improved, and a number of rural lines have been rebuilt.

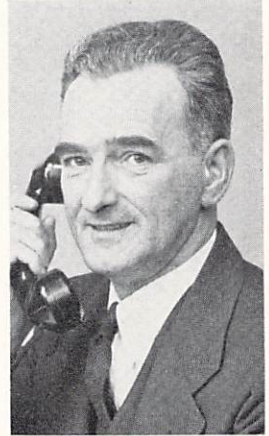
Don Knight Promoted

DONALD S. KNIGHT of the General Commercial Department has been appointed to the newly-created position of staff assistant—special services, reporting direct to the general commercial manager.

Mr. Knight spent a year with Canadian (B.C.) Telephones and Supplies Ltd. before transferring to the B.C. Telephone Company in October, 1952, as staff assistant to the public relations manager. He has been with the Commercial Department since January, 1955.

New Plant Head Named

J. DWIGHT MACLEOD, well-known member of the B. C. Telephone Company Plant Department, was recently promoted from the position of assistant plant manager to that of plant manager for the New Westminster and Fraser Valley district. He succeeds J.G. Harkness who has retired.



J. Dwight MacLeod

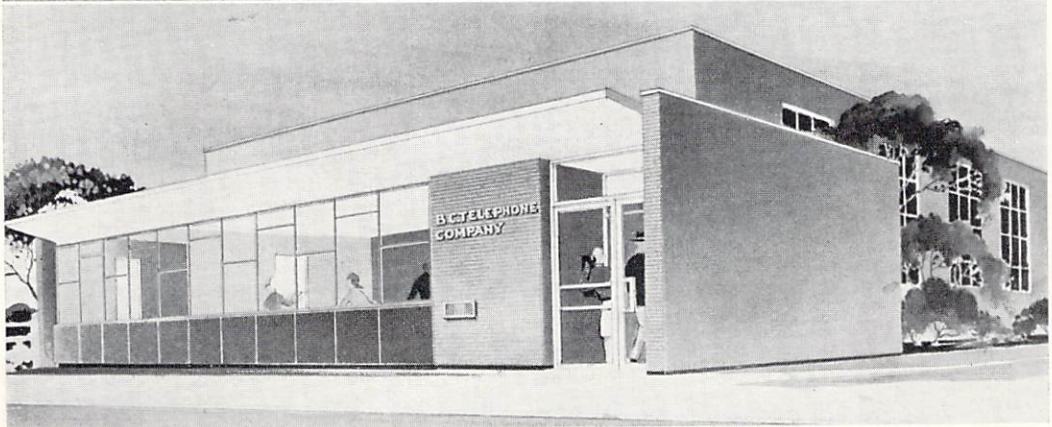
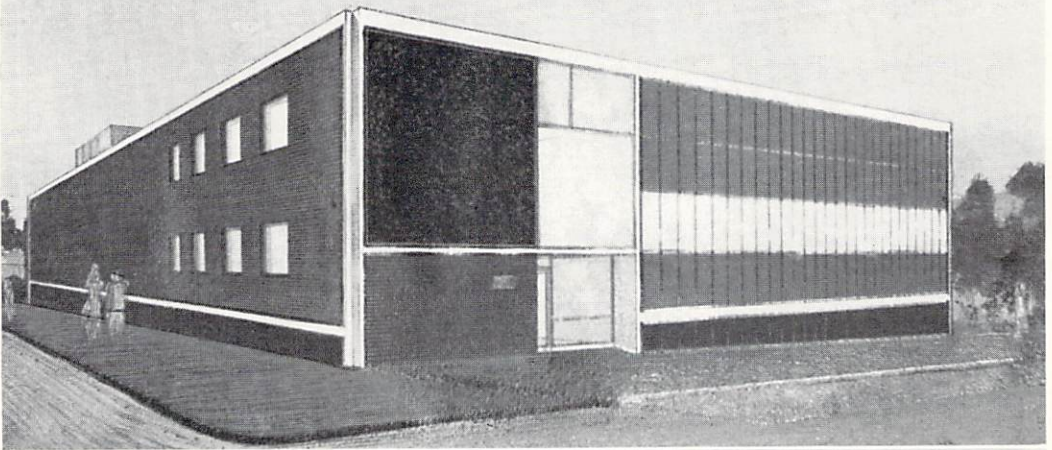
Mr. MacLeod's telephone career dates back to 1920 when he joined the Plant Records Department in Vancouver following high school graduation. Two years later he became plant clerk in the Construction Department, and in 1923 went on central office maintenance at what was then Vancouver's Highland office.

He was appointed wire chief at Kerrisdale in 1941 and three years later was made district plant chief there. Four years ago he became supervisor of plant methods and results.



Inaugural message despatched by Finning Tractor and Equipment Co. Ltd., Vancouver, to one of its six branch offices received executive approval last July. Left—J. K. Campbell, of Finning, first B. C. firm to install the system known as "TADS", stands with W. S. Pipes, vice-president and general manager, and H. G. Bourne, general commercial manager, of the B.C. Telephone Company. "TADS", which means Teletype Automatic Despatch System, handles words 25 percent faster than previous systems supplied by the B.C. Telephone Company. Right—Two Finning Teletype operators receive last-minute instructions from Miss Helen Chisholm, Teletype representative. Operators are Misses Lillian Johnson and Kay Motomochi. Messages are prepared first on perforated tape and despatched automatically to branch offices in the Fraser Valley and as far north as Dawson Creek and Prince George. Photos by Graphic Industries Ltd.

On the Drawing Board



Buildings are playing an increasingly important role in the Company's automatic conversion program, as expansion continues at a record rate throughout the system. These artists' conceptions show three of many telephone buildings which will be added to the B.C. landscape in the near future. Top—The proposed Oliver building which will house a new automatic system scheduled to go into service early in 1958. Centre—The artist's idea of what the Kerrisdale automatic building will look like. Construction on this and on a new building to house a dial system for Glenburn will begin this fall. Bottom—The new Ladner dial building will look like this, with conversion of the exchange to automatic operation scheduled to take place in the latter part of 1957.



Combine the advantages of the fork-lift truck with radiotelephone; place them in a materials-handling operation in a busy paper plant, and close to the ultimate in mobility and efficiency is obtained. Above—Jim Judge of Westminster Paper Company Ltd. operates one of the fleet of fork-lift trucks equipped with radiotelephone leased from the North-west Telephone Company. Photo by Jack Lindsay.

Radiotelephone "Moves" Paper

ONE of the most revolutionary carrying devices in industry today, the "fork-lift" truck, has teamed up with radiotelephony to give the last word in mobility to the on-the-spot operations of a B. C. paper manufacturing plant.

North-west Telephone Company has installed two-way radio sets on five specially adapted fork-lift trucks used to move and stack large rolls of paper in the New Westminster manufacturing and converting plant of Westminster Paper Company Ltd. A vital part of the company's operation is the storage and smooth flow of large stocks of the semi-finished paper to be converted into the many paper products manufactured.

Operations Co-ordinated

In this materials-handling operation, the radio-equipped trucks have proved highly efficient. A truck operator who has loaded rolls of paper on a freight elevator is able to contact a second operator on the floor above or below, no matter where the second

truck is located. This operator can then drive over to the elevator and remove the rolls. Thus, operations can be closely co-ordinated, with a considerable amount of time saved as a result.

The equipment presently being supplied by North-west Telephone Company is designed for compactness and flexibility. Transmitter, receiver and power supply are housed in one box, with the "control head", microphone and speaker located wherever it is convenient. The microphone is equipped with a "push-to-talk" button which allows one-handed operation at all times. As the radios operate in the 450 to 475 megacycles band with frequency modulation (FM), only a very short vertical antenna is required. In addition, intelligibility and clarity are at a high level, an important factor in noisy industrial locations.

Expert Maintenance

Some of the advantages of leasing equipment of this nature include periodic main-

tenance and, if necessary, repairs by experts. As installation and other mechanical problems are in the hands of the supplier, the user can concentrate on utilizing the service to the best advantage.

Industries which would benefit the most from the installation of private radiotelephone set-ups are those in which heavy inventories of raw materials, semi-finished products and finished products must be kept. A lumber yard, for example, already using fork-lift trucks or other types of vehicles in moving lumber, would find the addition of a radiotelephone system of great value.

Private radiotelephone is working along with increased automation in many industries, either in materials-handling applications, or in other locations where the activities of a number of persons have to be closely co-ordinated.

Swim Coverage Extensive

VICTORIA telephone personnel worked feverishly in August to provide the extensive communications facilities requested for radio and newspaper coverage of Marilyn Bell's defeat and victory of the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Speed, ever-present in press coverage, doubled in momentum in this case, and many of the special communication orders were supplied on 36 hours notice. Reporters and radio newsmen gave on-the-spot accounts directly to their offices in Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster. Special wirephoto installations were arranged for Canadian Press, the *Toronto Telegram* and the *Toronto Star*.

The B. C. Telephone Company installed program transmission lines, private line circuits, telephoto toll terminals and extra cable and telephones, linking the Gonzales Observatory, Empress Hotel and the Old Charming Inn where newsmen were located. Marilyn's efforts of August 10 and August 23 were closely followed.

In addition, special facilities to Toronto were supplied on a few minutes notice for coverage of Cliff Lumsden's successful swim. Full coverage was also given the mass swim.

The North-west Telephone Company installed three FM mobile (simplex) radio sets on two tugboats, *Island Champion* and *Sudbury*, and aboard a vessel leased by a Vancouver newspaper, for the August 10 swim by Miss Bell.



The recent installation of 9 special order turret positions, located among the maze of card indexes at the Retail Credit Grantors Bureau Ltd., saves steps for the many reporters whose duty it is to refer to the bureau's confidential files. Miss Elsie Zubick demonstrates the convenience of answering a call while having easy access to the necessary records. Photo by Dominion Photo Co.



Spruced up and ready for service at the 1956 Pacific National Exhibition are six of the 22 outdoor paystations installed there for the convenience of the fair-going public. The men in the picture are E. Davidson, and Lorne Kelly of the Building Maintenance Department. In addition to the 22 outdoor booths, 12 inside paystations were installed especially for the exhibition to augment the five in service all year round. Photo courtesy Vancouver Sun.

Phone Exhibit Creates Interest—So Do Girls

THE Company's two displays at the P.N.E. this year aroused much interest among the thousands who attended the 10-day event.

So did the attractive telephone girls who staffed them.

Among other things, they received confessions of undying love, proposals of marriage, invitations to corn roasts and offers of sweet peas.

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During a demonstration of the automatic equipment, one juvenile fair-goer was using one of the two telephones which were part of the exhibit. "Are you married?" he asked the young lady carrying out the demonstration from the second phone. Somewhat taken back, the attendant said she was not. "Then, why does your name card say 'Mrs.'?" asked our small friend. "But it doesn't say that; it says 'Miss'," replied the young lady. His reply, audible to the audience, was: "Well, that's good, because I think I'm in love with you!"

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An elderly gentleman, slightly inebriated, insisted on taking one of the girls to a corn roast he was planning for that evening. Despite repeated, but polite refusals, the visitor was adamant. He would go away and then return to extend the same invita-

tion. Finally, in despair, the young lady asked him if he would please go away and leave her alone. "Alright," he said as he stalked off, "you're probably too young for me anyway."

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Another old-timer was quite smitten with one of the telephone exhibit attendants. She had taken pains to explain the exhibit to him in detail, as he seemed very interested. He finally went away, only to return to tell her that he had bought her a ticket on the new home which was to be raffled off, and that if she won, the two of them could "marry and be together".

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One old lady cornered one of the girls on duty at the exhibit in the B. C. Building to complain about not being able to operate her new dial telephone. She said that she missed being able to talk to the operator, and found the automatic system confusing. The attendant explained the Company's automatic program and showed her how really simple it was to operate the dial. The visitor was impressed. "Would you give me your name and address, Miss? I have a big garden, and since you have been so nice, I'd like to send you some of my sweet peas."

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An out-of-town visitor was awed by the Type 88 Speakerphone. He stayed for a number of demonstrations, shaking his head in wonderment. As the crowd began to disperse from the last demonstration, he was overheard saying to his wife: "Just wait till the B. C. Telephone Company hears they've got that thing."

Stork Calls

To Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Auchinleck, a daughter, Barbara Alice Louise, on July 9. Mr. Auchinleck is traffic planning engineer with the General Traffic Department.

* * *

To Mr. and Mrs. James R. Peacock, a daughter, Karen Ruth, on July 20. Mr. Peacock is survey and forecast supervisor in the Commercial Engineering Department.

* * *

To Mr. and Mrs. John Farrell Hopwood, a son, David Farrell, on August 1. Mrs. Hopwood is the former Miss Eva Bradley of the Assignment Bureau, General Traffic Department. Mr. Hopwood is with Toll Maintenance.



Co-workers gathered at West recently to present W. S. Hardman, installation foreman, Canadian (B.C.) Telephones and Supplies Ltd., with a parting gift prior to his departure for Brockville, Ont., to become assistant to the production manager of Automatic Electric (Canada) Ltd. E. T. Squire (left), shop and installation manager, is shown making the presentation to Mr. Hardman. Photo by Graphic Industries Ltd.



Hidden source of trouble that prevented raising of a submarine cable from the murky Fraser River near Sea Island-Lulu Island Bridge was solved by a professional frogman last July. Lloyd Purdy, cable maintenance supervisor, had located the "trouble-spot" on a 200-pair Dupont trunk cable. However, crews couldn't raise the cable closer than 12 feet to the surface. The frogman investigated and found an old anchor and chain wrapped around the cable. The trouble developed when tension weakened an old splice. Photo by Jack Lindsay.

Miss Crucy Antone

MISS CRUCY ANTONE, a member of the Company's operating staff for 42 years, passed away on September 16 in the Edith Cavell Hospital.

Born and educated in New Westminster, Miss Antone began her long telephone career in 1912 and, with the exception of one year spent with the Bell Telephone Company in San Francisco, served on the New Westminster, Bayview and Fairmont staffs. She retired in January, 1955, when the Fairmont office, where she had worked for 26 years, was converted to automatic operation.

Miss Antone is survived by her sister and three brothers.

Signals Program Extensive

NO. 3 AREA Signal Squadron, Vancouver, has embarked on the most extensive communication training program in its history, featuring one week-end a month in the field during the ensuing year.

The training agenda includes basic army instruction for both men and C.W.A.C. personnel and courses in Teletype and switch-board operation, line and radio communication and vehicle maintenance and operation.

No. 3 Area Signal Squadron, with headquarters at No. 5 Hangar, North Jericho, is

a descendant of the famous 11 Division Signals which, together with other signals units across Canada, provided communication for all Canadian divisions during World War II.

The unit has openings in all categories, including those for C.W.A.C. Parades are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m., and telephone personnel are invited to visit the squadron on either night.



Al Eedy, automatic repairman at Osoyoos, applies old-fashioned elbow grease to the shiny surface of his Company truck. Photo by A. Harvey.

Looking Back

In Telephone Talk

Twenty Years Ago—A sign of better times was indicated by the announcement that owing to the pressure of business conditions, *TELEPHONE TALK*, which had been published quarterly, was to appear bi-monthly. The supplement, *Employee News*, was permanently discontinued.

Miss Susan Milne, Kerrisdale operator and member of a famous tennis family, was the second ranking lady tennis player in B. C., and the sixth in Canada. The No. 1 player in this province was her sister, Miss Jean Milne.

Fifteen Years Ago—The annual fall dance of the B. C. Telephone Company's Vancouver staff was held in the Commodore on October 24, and proceeds were devoted to Mrs. Winston Churchill's fund for women in uniform in Britain. Vancouver women of the B. C. Telephone Company are at present conducting a campaign in aid of this fund.

Dial telephone service came to the Fraser central office area in Vancouver at 30 seconds before midnight, Saturday, November 1. Fraser was the first of Vancouver's sub-

urban offices to be converted to the dial method of operation.

Ten Years Ago—Earl Squire and Thomas Sherwood, president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of Chapter 53, represented the B. C. Chapter at the General Assembly of the Telephone Pioneers of America which was held at Cleveland, Ohio, on September 18, 19 and 20.

Leo Sweeney, chairman of Vancouver Citizens' Diamond Jubilee Committee, congratulated the Company on the very attractive float which was greatly admired by the quarter million people along the parade route.

At the annual meeting of the B. C. Telephone Mixed Bowling Club, King Cavalsky was elected president for the league's 1946-1947 season.

Wrong Number "Right"

A GENTLEMAN in Ogden, Utah, called the wrong number, but it proved to be right.

He dialed what he thought was the number of his son-in-law's house. It turned out to be the wrong number but he had found the house where his son-in-law was making some plumbing repairs.

A statistical genius in the Mountain States Telephone Company figured out the caller had cashed in on a 30,000-to-one shot.



Many years of telephone service were represented by the gathering of former West operators who were reunited at the home of Mrs. Connie Davenport on July 13. Front row—(left to right)—Mesdames H. Bell, E. Ellis and M. Allwork, Miss N. Searle and Mrs. F. Bartlett. Centre—Mesdames M. Munn, M. Johnson, D. Bowden, D. Reynolds, C. Davenport, W. MacMillan, P. Gray, M. Berven and R. Thompson. Back row—Mrs. B. Lamb and Miss A. Brooks and Mesdames G. Ross, M. Hodson, D. Simpson, A. Menzies and M. Hughes. Photo by Graphic Industries Ltd.

Mr. Jost Early Phone Pioneer

ONE of the true pioneers of telephony in British Columbia is J. Stanley Jost, now living in retirement at his home in Vancouver. In fact, his connection with the business began before he arrived in this province.

Mr. Jost was born in Charlottetown, P.E.I., and in 1896 went to work for The



J. Stanley Jost

Telephone Company of Prince Edward Island as a messenger. H. W. Kent, himself a pioneer telephone man and for some years manager of the British Columbia Telephone Company, was related to Mr. Jost through marriage.

While Mr. Kent was visiting in Charlottetown in 1899 the two men discussed conditions on the west coast,

with the result that Mr. Jost travelled to Victoria in January, 1900, and immediately went to work for the Telephone Company as a groundman.

All-round Man

During the following years he was trouble man, installer and telephone inspector in Victoria, local manager at Grand Forks, and local manager at Nanaimo. In November, 1912, he became storekeeper in the Vancouver Construction Department, which led to his appointment as general storekeeper. Later, Mr. Jost resigned from the Telephone Company to work at Britannia, where he remained for many years.

He has retained many vivid memories of the early days of the telephone business. In the early 1900's in Victoria there were no grounded circuits as was common then in most telephone systems, according to Mr. Jost. Instead, Victoria had a common ground wire—No. 9 galvanized wire—which was strung on the poles back to the telephone office, and which was looped from subscriber to subscriber. The poles themselves were 80 feet high to avoid interference from trolley wires. One of the duties of a telephone inspector was to go around to all the telephones once every month to

put more water and sal ammoniac in the Le Clanche batteries—this work being done in the subscriber's kitchen.

Harley D. Miller was wire chief in Victoria at this time, recalls Mr. Jost, and R. B. McMicking, who originally arrived at the coast by travelling down the Fraser River on a raft, was the manager.

Took Screwdrivers

Around the turn of the century Mr. McMicking and Mr. Jost had to go to subscribers' homes to collect telephone rentals. They always took screwdrivers with them so that if the accounts weren't paid, they could take the instruments out. Most accounts were paid promptly.

Mr. Jost was an ardent hockey player, and, when he was manager of the Company in Grand Forks he played for the local team. There was a very active league which comprised teams from Nelson, Trail, Rossland, Grand Forks, Greenwood, Phoenix and Spokane. The Patrick brothers at that time played for Nelson, and Mr. Jost says the Nelson team was so strong it nearly always skated off with the league championship.

Saved Switchboard

In 1909 Grand Forks had a rather disastrous fire in which, along with a number of other buildings, the telephone office was burned. Mr. Jost cut the switchboard loose and took it across the street to safety, after which he installed it temporarily in a nearby shack, using two-inch finishing nails for his "main frame" and bell coil wire for fuses, as the old main frame had been destroyed in the fire.

Mr. Jost is retired now and spends much time gardening, but his interest in telephony has never flagged, and he keeps up to date on all the latest advancements in the world of communications through his reading.

ONLY splicing remains to be carried out before completion of a \$35,000 expansion program in the Smithers area. Another job in progress will provide additional outside plant to improve services between Smithers and Telkwa. The 35 miles of iron wire being placed will provide six new circuits.

SEVERE electrical storms on July 15 interrupted the service of 600 subscribers in Trail, 200 in Cranbrook and 75 in Natal. Full service was restored by the following day.

Vancouver and the Mainland



Mr. and Mrs. Roy B. Mason

Commercial Engineering

A WEDDING of interest to telephone employees took place in St. James United Church on August 17 when Miss Dorothy N. Bentley of the Commercial Engineering Department became the bride of Roy B. Mason of the Plant Extension Engineering Department. Following a reception in the Stanley Park Sports Pavilion, Mr. and Mrs. Mason left for a wedding trip to Skagway and Whitehorse, Y. T.

Prior to their marriage, Company associates honored the bride with a miscellaneous shower at the home of Mrs. Nancy Swanson, while members of the groom's department entertained in his honor at the Arctic Club. A presentation to Miss Bentley was made by E. R. Boyce on behalf of the Commercial Engineering Department.

* * *

New Westminster Traffic

REV. R. R. Cunningham performed the ceremony on August 10 in St. Andrew's Wesley Chapel in which nuptial vows were exchanged by Miss Carolyn MacKinnon and Gordon P. Slight. The newly-weds received their guests in the Stanley Park Sports Pavilion and, following their reception, left for the Okanagan.

* * *

Hastings

A DOUBLE shower in honor of Miss Betty Wilson and Mrs. Jean Winbow was held in the office lounge on August 14 and was followed by presentations to the brides-elect. Miss Wilson received an electric frying pan, while Mrs. Winbow was

recipient of a blanket and a pair of pillowslips.

Mrs. Nancy Read was hostess at a miscellaneous shower given in honor of Mrs. Lila Newton prior to her marriage to Edward McKinnon.

* * *

Vancouver Long Distance

Two members of Unit 1, Miss Olga Harchenko and Miss Eleanor Demorris, were honored at a miscellaneous shower held at the home of Miss Mary Guild. Miss Maude Eccleston, chief operator, presented Miss Harchenko with a torchiere lamp and a pair of sheets, and Miss Demorris with an electric coffee-maker.

Best wishes are extended to Misses Kathleen Tansey, Bernice Anderson, Joan King, Elaine Titos, Lois Meiklejohn, Norma Lacey and Patricia Penney on the occasion of their recent marriages.

Misses Elta Shrumm, Doreen Greig and Barbara Melisko have resigned from the staff to take trips, while Miss Yvonne Roach and Miss Fern Anderson have left the Company to return to their homes in the East. Mrs. Muriel Pitchford is leaving Vancouver to reside in Nanaimo; Mrs. Patricia Davies and Miss Melita Froese are moving to Fraser Valley communities, and Miss Gillian Roomes is taking up residence in Calgary.

Congratulations to Mrs. Lexa Brown on the birth of a son, James Charles.

* * *

New Westminster Commercial

MISCELLANEOUS showers at the homes of Miss Doris Stack, Glenburn supervisor; Mrs. Florence Doyle, former Fairmont supervisor, and Mrs. Beryl Confrey, New Westminster Commercial Department, were attended by Telephone Company associates who gathered to honor Miss Cecile Perron, former teacher and supervisor. Prior to her marriage of August 18 to Harold Parker, the bride-elect was presented with a wedding gift from R. S. MacPherson, New Westminster district commercial manager, on behalf of the staff.

* * *

Toll Maintenance

MEMBERS of the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band formed the guard of honor as William Logan and his bride, the former Miss Beverley MacPhail, were piped from Robertson Presbyterian Church after their wedding on August 18. On behalf of the bride's co-workers, Eric P. Mason, toll wire chief, presented Miss MacPhail with a torchiere lamp.

* * *

Dexter

A MISCELLANEOUS shower honoring Miss Adele Zral was held at the home of Mrs. Helen Sargent. Co-hostesses on this occasion were Mrs. Patricia Grey and Mrs. Shirley Webb. Mrs. Vivian Connop, supervisor, was presented with kitchen ware prior to her marriage to Archie Mutch on August 24. Wedding gifts were also presented to recent brides-elect, Miss Jean McKenzie and Miss Dolores Korostil.

The sympathy of the staff is extended to Miss Lena Townsend, assistant chief operator, on the death of her mother on August 11, and to Mrs. Elsie Watson, supervisor, on the loss of her son, accidentally drowned at Point Roberts August 30.

Ladner

IN honor of their chief operator, Miss Irene Hoey, members of the Ladner staff gathered for a surprise party and presented a patio umbrella-table, their parting gift on the occasion of Miss Hoey's retirement.



Mr. and Mrs. William Logan. The bride is the former Miss Beverley MacPhail of the Toll Maintenance staff.

the bride of Alan L. Walton. The Rt. Rev. T. M. Nichol officiated in the Church of Saints Peter and Paul. Prior to her wedding, Miss Opsal received a breakfast set and Coalport from her co-workers.

* * *

Newton Commercial

NEWTON Presbyterian Church was the setting for the September 1 wedding at which Miss Margaret Salmons and Garth R. Binning were united in marriage by Rev. R. Talbot. The reception, held in the Legion Hall, was followed by a trip to Banff and Glacier National Park. The newly-weds will make their home at 1682 Stayte Road, White Rock.



Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Miller. Mrs. Miller is the former Miss Christine Watt of the Kerrisdale operating staff.

Plant Department

THE wedding of Edward D. Matsalla, formerly of Marine records and now of Plant Assignment, and Miss Dorene Moreau took place in Guardian Angels' Church at 11 a.m. on September 1. Following their reception, Mr. and Mrs. Matsalla motored to Buchanan, Sask., where they visited the groom's parents.

* * *

Personnel Department

A WEDDING trip to California followed the high noon ceremony on September 22 when Miss Carmen Opsal became

the bride of Alan L. Walton. The Rt. Rev. T. M. Nichol officiated in the Church of Saints Peter and Paul. Prior to her wedding, Miss Opsal received a breakfast set and Coalport from her co-workers.



Mr. and Mrs. Clifford C. Sherlock after their wedding in St. Saviour's Church, Nelson. The bride is the former Miss Anne Bergmann of the Plant Department. Mr. Sherlock, formerly of Vancouver Commercial, is with the Nelson Commercial Department. Photo by Renwick.

Kerrisdale

Two wedding gifts and several farewell gifts were presented to members of the Kerrisdale staff. Brides-elect Miss Colleen Bird and Miss Leola Hamelin were recipients of flatware and a waffle iron respectively, while Mrs. Vera Coward, who resigned from the staff to go East, was presented with luggage. A blanket and pillowcases were Mrs. Zada Burton's gift from co-workers prior to her transfer to the Powell River office of the Northwest Telephone Company.

Miss Barbara Shobridge and Miss Doree Emery were presented with cosmetic cases and earrings. Miss Anne Ell received a Brownie camera and flash unit, and Mrs. Evelyn Baker was recipient of a Royal Doulton figurine.

* * *

New Denver

THE Pythian Sisters of Lucern Temple No. 17 were hostesses at a community shower on July 19 honoring Miss Barbara M. Thomlinson whose marriage to John A. Hogan was an event of August 11.

The Knights of Pythias Hall was decorated in the colors of the Order, and the bride-elect's gifts, arranged in a huge basket made of green cedar boughs, were placed in a tent, representing the Bush River forest station where the groom is stationed. A telephone switchboard for Miss Thomlinson was also featured in the shower decorations.

* * *

Kaslo

RECENT visitors from Vancouver were Charles H. Morrisette of Canadian (B. C.) Telephones and Supplies Ltd. and Jack Hart, central office maintenance man at Fraser, who, accompanied by their wives, were conducted through the office.

Vancouver Island



Smiling for TELEPHONE TALK's camera is Miss Norma John (left) of the Sidney operating staff. Miss Yvonne Brown, Mrs. Reta Ridge and Miss Shirley Anderson can be seen from left to right. Above, Miss Mary Enos, chief operator, is shown at her desk. Photos by E. Murray.

Victoria Traffic

COFFEE tables were presented to Miss Joan Johnson and Miss Betty Patrick by their chief operator, Miss M. Burley, at a double shower held recently in the office lounge. Miss Burley made the presentations on behalf of Miss E. R. Walker, district traffic superintendent, and the members of the operating staff. Corsages were also presented to the guests of honor by Miss M. Tait and Miss H. Barr. Over 50 Company associates gathered in the office lounge which was decorated with glad-oli and asters. Refreshments were served in the cafeteria under the convenership of Miss Doreen Buckingham. Assisting her were Misses B. Johnson, A. Clark, M. Jackson and E. Lee, and Mesdames M. Smith, E. Cooper, M. Collins, W. Lafek and B. Slater.

Miss Patrick's marriage to Alan Darrell McCormick took place in St. Columba's Church and was followed by a reception in the church hall. Mr. and Mrs. McCormick travelled to the mainland and the U. S. for their wedding trip, and are now residing in Victoria.

Miss Doris Millen, exchange clerk, was presented with a radio from her co-workers prior to her transfer to Vancouver Long Distance.

* * *

Victoria Commercial

KENNETH D. BISSETT was guest of honor at a no-host-after-five party prior to his transfer to Nanaimo as business office representative. On behalf of the assembled guests, J. A. Mackintosh, district commercial manager, presented Mr. Bissett with a Ronson cigarette lighter and cuff links.

The marriage, solemnized by Rev. W. E. Greenhalgh, took place on June 30 between Miss Dian Roberta Mellis and John Neil Armstrong. The bride chose her cousin, Miss Brenda Antrobus of the Commercial Department, as her maid of honor. Following their wedding trip to the U.S. the newly-weds returned to Victoria where Mrs.

Armstrong has resumed her position as senior teller. Prior to her marriage, Miss Mellis was recipient of a chenille bedspread presented by Bryan Holliday, district collection supervisor, with best wishes of the staff.

West Vancouver will be the new home of Paul William Price and his bride, the former Joan Marion Howorth, who were married on July 14 in the Centennial United Church. One of the bridal attendants was Miss Vivian Lindstrom of Victoria commercial. The wedding gift from the staff, two place settings of Royal Doulton china, was presented to Mrs. Price by J. A. Chubb, district sales supervisor.

Two Company employees were united in marriage on July 21 when Miss Marjorie Bousfield of the Commercial Department and Richard Brian Squire of the Plant Department repeated nuptial vows before the Rev. D. A. Hatfield. A co-worker of the bride, Miss Jacqueline Henderson, was a bridesmaid. After honeymooning at Harrison Hot Springs, the couple returned to Victoria.

* * *

Ex-Tel-O Club

THE eighteenth annual reunion banquet of the Victoria Ex-Tel-O Club took place recently in the Glenshiel Hotel.

Mrs. E. Reston, president, gave the address of welcome, after which club correspondence and telegrams of congratulations were read. Guests included Miss E. R. Walker, Miss E. Warburton, Miss M. Burley and Miss M. Mitchell from the Victoria Traffic Department, and Mrs. E. Rutledge, Mrs. D. Chambers and Mrs. D. Mason from the Ex-Tel-O Club in Vancouver.

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List of Exchanges

Number of Telephones on September 1, 1956

BRITISH COLUMBIA TELEPHONE COMPANY					
Abbotsford	2,968		100 Mile House		75
Agassiz	739		Osoyoos		504
Ahousat	25		Parksville Exchange		1,188
Albion	2,249		Parksville	664	
Aldergrrove	892		Qualicum	524	
Alexis Creek	17		Pender Harbour		148
Ashcroft	201		Port Alberni		5,183
Balfour	64		Port Coquitlam		1,287
Bamfield	37		Port Moody		1,201
Belmont	2,107		Port Renfrew		58
Boston Bar	108		Princeton		593
Bowen Island	43		Quesnel		1,089
Bridge River Mines	405		Radium (operated from Invermere)		41
Burns Lake	317		Richmond Exchange		7,054
Castlegar	891		Dupont	4,776	
Chase	146		Fulton	2,278	
Chemainus	1,018		Rock Creek		56
Chilliwack Exchange	5,544		Rossland		1,134
Chilliwack	5,143		Salmo		221
Yarrow	401		Sechelt		413
Christina Lake (operated from Grand Forks)	41		Shalalth (operated from Lillooet)		25
Clinton	80		Sidney		1,370
Cloverdale Exchange	6,886		Slocan City		22
Cloverdale	2,038		Smithers		544
Newton	2,728		Sooke		400
White Rock	2,120		Squamish		539
Cobble Hill	574		Telkwa (operated from Smithers)		55
Colquitz	3,673		Terrace		950
Courtenay Exchange	3,233		Thetis Island (operated from Chemainus)		30
Courtenay	3,011		Tofino		58
Union Bay	222		Trail		5,431
Cranbrook	1,757		Ucluelet		108
Creston	1,101		Vancouver Exchange		192,137
Cumberland	591		Marine-Pacific-Tatlow-Mutual 3	50,826	
Duncan	3,297		Cedar-Cherry-Bayview	28,489	
Fernie	677		Emerald-Dickens-Express	23,595	
Forest Grove (operated from 100 Mile House)	37		Kerrisdale	17,376	
Fort St. James	117		Alma	8,016	
Fruitvale	605		Dexter	21,089	
Gabriola Island (operated from Nanaimo)	33		Fraser-Elgin	17,080	
Ganges	608		Hastings	15,477	
Gibsons	603		Glenburn	10,188	
Golden	248		Vanderhoof		297
Grand Forks	559		Victoria		41,842
Greenwood	169		Wells		114
Gulf Islands	257		West Vancouver Exchange		8,283
Haney Exchange	3,379		West Vancouver	7,657	
Haney	2,346		Whytecliff	626	
Hammond	1,033		Westwold (operated from Kamloops)		19
Hazelton	165		Williams Lake		557
Hope	756		Yale		42
Hornby Island (operated from Courtenay)	22		Youbou		299
Houston (operated from Smithers)	25		Toll Stations		1,795
Invermere	333		Total		395,785
Kamloops	5,582		NORTH-WEST TELEPHONE CO.		
Kaslo	237		Alert Bay		283
Keating	842		Alice Arm		8
Keremeos	320		Campbell River		1,541
Kimberley	1,913		Dawson Creek		1,388
Kitimat	1,797		Fort St. John		260
Ladner	1,483		Kelsey Bay (operated from Campbell River)		43
Ladysmith	1,174		Masset		38
Lake Cowichan	744		Nimkish (operated from Alert Bay)		27
Langley	2,848		Ocean Falls		691
Lillooet	222		Port Clements		26
Lytton	99		Port Hardy		68
Merritt	537		Powell River		3,348
Mission	2,246		Pouce Coupe		116
Nakusp	319		Prince George		3,605
Nanaimo	7,892		Queen Charlotte City		76
Natal	243		Sointula		125
Nelson	3,936		Tahsis		125
New Denver	233		Toll Stations		406
New Westminster	23,665		Total		12,174
North Vancouver Exchange	15,724		SUMMARY		
York-Willow	14,953		British Columbia Telephone Co.		395,785
Woodside	771		North-west Telephone Co.		12,174
Oliver	908		Connecting Systems in B.C.		25,361
			Total		433,320

Another Bouquet
In Our Mail Bag

“Alert and Accurate”

*From a letter received from Fire Chief W. N. Menzies,
Corporation of the District of Burnaby:*

“We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the co-operation received from the operators on duty during the time when one of the worst fires in the history of Burnaby destroyed a large portion of the Alpha Junior High School.

“The alert and accurate manner in which the operators received and placed our calls contributed immeasurably to the fire safety of the Municipality.”